

Review & Comment Section August 3, 1978

CIA Responsible for JFK Death, Cuba Says

HAVANA (AP) — A Cuban government investigation has concluded the CIA was responsible for the death of President John F. Kennedy and tried to blame Cuba for it.

No evidence was offered to prove either point in testimony given here yesterday but there were new disclosures about the trip Lee Harvey Oswald is alleged to have made to Mexico City on Sept. 27, 1963.

Eusebio Azcue Lopez, the Cuban consul in Mexico City, said he spoke with a man who identified himself as Oswald but that he was not the same man who killed Kennedy seven weeks later.

Azcue spoke before an international "tribunal," which has been investigating "imperialist crimes." The tribunal is being held during the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students, which has attracted young leftists from around the world.

Azcue said the Oswald he met in Mexico City had gone to the embassy to apply for a two-week visa to Cuba, the first leg of a trip to the Soviet Union.

Azcue said there were "hard lines" on the face of the Oswald he met, which

compared with the "very young" appearance of Kennedy's assassin. Whereas the latter Oswald was 24, Azcue said the man he met in Mexico City was about 35.

Enrique Marimon Roca, a member of the Cuban investigating commission, told the tribunal that Oswald had been a CIA agent since 1958.

Marimon said Oswald assassinated Kennedy at the instruction of the CIA after leaving a series of clues suggesting a link between him and the Cuban government.

Oswald's purported appearance at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City was a major element in the campaign to blame Havana, he said.

Marimon also said that Oswald's highly publicized association with the pro-Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee was a fabrication.

Oswald was said to have worked for the committee in New Orleans but Marimon said the organization had no office

in that city and that Oswald's name did not appear on membership lists.

According to Marimon's theory, the CIA turned against Kennedy after he apparently reconciled himself to the existence of a Communist state in Cuba.

Marimon recalled that Kennedy, as part of the agreement which ended the Cuban missile crisis, promised Russia the United States would not invade Cuba.

Juan Felaifel Canahan, who described himself as a double agent working for the Cuban security forces, testified that a top CIA officer was overjoyed when word of the assassination was broadcast Nov. 22, 1963.

"At last, we have eliminated that White House pinko," Felaifel quoted the CIA man as saying.

He said the agent was confident that with Kennedy out of the way, CIA actions against Cuba would increase and that ample money would be available for that purpose.